**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages In This Submission 2

Application Number	09/811,661
Filing Date	March 19, 2001
First Named Inventor	Yuji Fujiwara, et al.
Art Unit	2621
Examiner Name	Jose L. Couso
Attorney Docket No.	MTS-3242US

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached

<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/Declaration(s)

<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request

<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request

<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement

<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)

<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/
Incomplete Application

<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under
37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Petition
<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a
Provisional Application

<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation,
Change of Correspondence
Address

<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer
<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund

<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication
to Group

<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board
of Appeals and Interferences

<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group
(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply
Brief)

<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information

<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please
identify below):

Return Postcard |
|--|---|--|

Remarks:**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT**

Firm or Individual Name	Daniel N. Calder	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	27,424
Signature			
Date	September 8, 2004		

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION / MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date:

Typed or printed name	Fran Petrillo	Date	September 8, 2004
Signature			

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Office, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

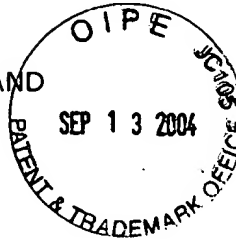
If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Application No.: 09/811,661

MTS-3242US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No: 09/811,661
Applicant: Yuji FUJIWARA, et al.
Filed: March 19, 2001
Title: IMAGE SIGNAL ENCODING DEVICE AND
IMAGE SIGNAL ENCODING METHOD
TC/A.U.: 2621
Examiner: Jose L. Couso
Confirmation No.: 9405
Docket No.: MTS-3242US



PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.181

Mail Stop Issue Fee

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

This Petition is being filed in response to the Notice of Allowance dated **August 31, 2004**.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner provide a Supplemental Notice of Allowability, indicating that the allowed claims are 1-21. The second page of the Notice of Allowability states that claims 1-21 are allowed, which is correct. But the first page of the Notice of Allowability incorrectly states that claims 1-16 are allowed; it should read claims 1-21 are allowed. Correction is requested.

The Issue Fee is due on **November 30, 2004**.

It is respectfully requested that issuance of the above-identified application be suspended until the Supplemental Notice of Allowance has been entered.

Respectfully submitted,
RatnerPrestia

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel N. Calder".

Daniel N. Calder, Reg. 27,424
Attorney for Applicants

DNC/fp

Enclosures: Notice of Allowance dated August 31, 2004

Dated: September 8, 2004

Suite 301, One Westlakes, Berwyn
P.O. Box 980, Valley Forge, PA 19482-0980
(610) 407-0700

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

September 8, 2004

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fran Petrucci".

MJC

MTS-324245



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

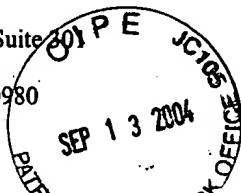
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

Allan Ratner
Ratner & Prestia
One Westlakes, Berwyn, Suite 201
P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0980

7590

08/31/2004



RECEIVED

SEP 02 2004

RatnerPrestia

EXAMINER

COUSO, JOSE L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2621

DATE MAILED: 08/31/2004

Issue Pub fee due 11/30/04

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/811,661	03/19/2001	Yuji Fujiwara	MTS-3242US	9405

TITLE OF INVENTION: IMAGE SIGNAL ENCODING DEVICE AND IMAGES SIGNAL ENCODING METHOD

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1330	\$300	\$1630	11/30/2004

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (OR AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/811,661

Examiner

Jose L. Couso

Applicant(s)

FUJIWARA ET AL.

Art Unit

2621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 6/28/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 19 March 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

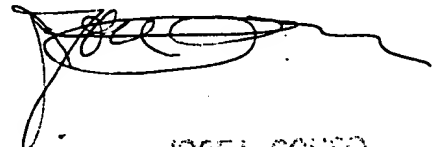
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____



JOSEL COUSO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

1. Claims 1-21 are allowed.
2. Applicant's arguments, see pages 2, line 7 through page 4, line 20, filed 6/24/04, with respect to claims 1-21 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1-21 has been withdrawn.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of the record fail to teach or suggest singly and/or in combination an image signal encoding device comprising at least encoding means of dividing a luminescence signal and color-difference signals of image signals into macro blocks having a plurality of sub macro blocks and encoding data of the macro blocks with use of any one of a plurality of compression modes of which compression rate is different from each other, wherein the total numbers of sub macro blocks in each macro block are the same for the use of all kinds of compression modes as prescribed for in the claimed invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."